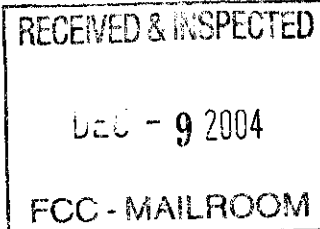




AMERICAN MILITARY RETIREES ASSOCIATION

Protecting the benefits of all Military Retirees and Veterans!



November 3, 2004

The Honorable Michael Powell
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RE: Docket No. 03-133

Dear Chairman Powell and Commissioners Abernathy, Copps, Martin and Adelstein:


On behalf of the American Military Retiree Association (AMRA) and our more than 15,000 members, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to reject and defeat any proposed new regulations that would impose new charges and fees on enhanced pre-paid calling cards. This will place a new and unjust burden on our military's men and women and their families during this war time period and especially during holiday seasons.

It is estimated that 95% of our military personnel use pre-paid calling cards: these cards account for over 1 billion precious minutes of calls between our troops and their families and friends each and every year.

In short, pre-paid calling cards are the lifeline for our servicemen and women stationed abroad who depend on affordable means of communications back home. The FCC should not raise the cost of pre-paid calling cards at a time when our military is courageously serving in wartime around the globe. The effect of new regulations, if successful, would be an astounding hike in rates on our servicemen and women by nearly 20%.

I implore you, the FCC commissioners, to resist the internal bureaucratic impulses to re-regulate these vital services to the detriment of our brave military service personnel who are fighting daily for our freedom around the world. They deserve all the help we can give them.

Sincerely,


Bernard "Matt" Dillon
AMRA National President

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Cc: Commissioners: Abernathy, Copps, Martin, and Adelstein



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"Call me, I will help if I can"

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